## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KEREN et al.

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Group: Not Yet Assigned

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Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TESTING AND MAPPING PHASE OBJECTS

December 27, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

a'

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the calculation of the optical parameter of interest comprises transforming the recorded moiré pattern into one or more points in the spatial frequency plane, such that the vectors defining said points are the vectors of spatial frequencies  $V_y$  and  $V_x$  associated with said moiré pattern, identifying the components of said vectors  $(V_{yx}, V_{yy})$  and  $(V_{xx}, V_{xy})$  and substituting their values in an equation which linearly